Roxbury Community College

33rd Commencement

June 6, 2008

One O'Clock P.M.

Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center
1350 Tremont Street
Roxbury, MA 02120

The National Anthem

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight'
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming.
And the rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Francis Scott Key
1779 - 1843

Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing

Lift ev'ry voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on 'til victory is won.

James Weldon Johnson
1871 - 1938

Program

- **Prelude**
- **Processional**
  The audience is requested to remain seated during the processional for students and faculty. Music provided by Dr. John Weeks.
  Grafton Job Corps Color Guard will post the colors.
- **National Anthem and Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing**
  Led by Ms. Tia Myers Class of 08
- **Students' Greetings from Around the World**
- **Greetings From the President**
  Dr. Terrence A. Gomes
- **Greetings From the Governor of Massachusetts**
  The Honorable Governor Deval Patrick
- **Greetings From the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education**
  Dr. Patricia Plummer
- **Greetings From the Alumni**
  Ms. Toya Scott Class of 98
- **Musical Selection**
  Ms. Velma Dupont
- **Introduction of Community Service Recipient**
  Dr. Alane Shanks, Vice President of Administration and Finance
- **Community Service Award**
  Ms. Brandy K. Cruthird
- **Introduction of the Valedictorian**
  Dr. Brenda W. Mercomes, Vice President of Academic Affairs
- **Valedictorian**
  Mr. Girma Tsegaye Endale
- **Introduction of the Commencement Speaker**
  Ms. Stephanie C. Janey, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs
- **Commencement Address**
  Ms. Beverly A. Morgan-Welch, Executive Director of Museum of African American History
- **Musical Selection**
  Ms. Velma Dupont

- **Conferring of Degrees and Certificates**
- **Authorization of the Board of Trustees**
  Ms. Michele Courton Brown, Chair, Board of Trustees
  Dr. Terrence A. Gomes, President
- **Introduction of Degree and Certificate Candidates**
  Presided by Dr. Brenda W. Mercomes, Vice President of Academic Affairs
  Candidates for Associate of Arts degree introduced by Dean Nancy Teel
  Candidates for Associate of Science degree introduced by Dean Tala Khudairi
  Candidates for Certificates with specification introduced by Dean David Becker
- **Presentation of Degrees and Certificates to the Students**
  Mr. Deval Patrick, Governor of Massachusetts
  Ms. Michele Courton Brown, Chair, Board of Trustees
  Dr. Terrence A. Gomes, President
  Presided by Dr. Brenda W. Mercomes, Vice President of Academic Affairs
- **President's Charge to the Graduating Class of 2008**
  Dr. Terrence A. Gomes, President
- **Recessional**
  The audience is requested to remain seated during the recessional and is invited immediately after the ceremony to a reception in the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center Field House.

Terrence A. Gomes

President

Today is a landmark in the chosen path for your lives. Beyond this landmark, or signpost, awaits a world around you that is real and exciting. But this is not just the end; think of today as the beginning of new opportunities, experiences and growth.

I would like for you to remember today, not just the moment, but the years that have lead to this moment. The days spent together in class, the hard work and sacrifices endured and the friendships that have been built along the way.

Education is a frontier for changing how we choose to live, how we choose to educate, and how we choose to govern ourselves for future generations to come. Please grasp the opportunities when they arise, for therein, lies the key to your future and the future of all our communities.

I am very proud of you and what you have accomplished. Your graduation will help pave the way as you travel the road to greater success both in college and beyond. You will be the leaders of tomorrow and with the education you now have and will seek further, it will take you to new heights to achieve many of your dreams and the dreams of others.

My heartiest congratulations to the Class of 2008. I wish each of you the very best and much success in the future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Terrence A. Gomes
President

Commencement Speaker

Beverly A. Morgan-Welch

Executive Director
Museum of African American History

Beverly A. Morgan-Welch serves as the chief executive of the oldest and most visible African American history museum in New England located on Boston's Beacon Hill and on Nantucket. With four historic sites and collections that preserve the powerful past of African Americans, the museum provides Black Heritage Trail® tours, exhibits and education programs that illuminate a liberating American History.

Under her leadership, the Museum of African American History has become a nationally recognized institution increasing scholarship and collections. In 2006, Beverly launched a 200th Anniversary Campaign to restore and celebrate the African Meeting House in Boston during its bicentennial and to raise funds for other capital projects including the purchase of the Seneca Boston-Florence Higginbotham House (c 1774) on Nantucket and a building to create an Education and Technology Center in Boston.

Beverly has served as the Executive Director of the Greater Hartford Arts Council, Director of Development at the Wadsworth Atheneum, and Assistant Dean of Admission at Amherst College. She was also the Manager of Community Relations at Raytheon, a member of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Hartford, and Secretary of the Connecticut Mutual Life Foundation serving the company's Corporate Social Responsibility Department. Beverly was Co-Chairperson of the Inauguration of Governor Deval Patrick and raised funds for the Bishop Desmond Tutu Southern African Refugee Scholarship Fund.

Currently she is a member of the Board of Directors of the Boston History and Innovation Collaborative, and a Member of the Antiquarian Society, the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, and the Massachusetts Historical Society.

A graduate of Smith College with a major in Theatre and Speech, Beverly Morgan-Welch resides in Andover, Massachusetts with her daughter, Alexandra.

Community Service Award Recipient

Brandy K. Cruthird

Founder
Body By Brandy Fitness Studio

Brandy K. Cruthird is the founder and owner of Body By Brandy Fitness Studio in Boston, Massachusetts. A former marketing representative for Reebok, Intl., Brandy is a certified aerobic instructor with over 10 years experience in the fitness industry. She has conducted numerous fitness demonstrations nationally and locally including the YWCA's Breast Cancer Awareness Day, the African American Women on Tour Convention and the Dimock Health Center's Body & Soul Wellness Connection. Brandy's signature community event, the "Everybody Walk Your Body Fitness Walk and Health Fair", was launched in 1997, in collaboration with Mayor Thomas M. Menino and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. This annual event has inspired thousands of people to become physically fit. Her commitment to her community is also exemplified in her articles on exercise and nutrition for Roxbury.com and BlackBostonOnline.com.

Brandy has been on a 10-year mission to make the community she loves a healthier one. A native of Dorchester who grew up in the Orchard Park projects, Brandy parlayed her athleticism into a Division I basketball scholarship to James Madison University in Virginia. While still a student, Brandy spent her summers working for Canton-based Reebok where she moved from Field Services Coordinator to Marketing Representative responsible for over 200 accounts in the Boston area. While at Reebok, Brandy saw there were no fitness centers in her community, so she opened her very own fitness studio part-time, financing her venture with Reebok stock and tapping her retirement fund. From humble beginnings-two studio apartments in Dudley Square-Body By Brandy Fitness Studio has grown and recently expanded to a newly renovated facility at 2181 Washington Street.

The newly developed parent organization of the fitness club, My Body My Business Inc., pointedly addresses prevailing notions about fitness through education, nutrition consultation and empowerment strategies. Family health and fitness has become a major focus for Brandy, and her studio provides fitness, nutrition and healthy alternatives for adults and a fitness and health awareness program for children. In March 2006, Brandy launched Body By Brandy Fit Kidz, a non-profit designed to help combat childhood obesity. The first kids gym in the community, Body By Brandy 4 Kidz has been made possible by the generous support of its partners the Children's Hospital of Boston, United Way of Boston, Blue Cross Blue Shield and Good Sport. BBB Fit Kidz features a rock climbing wall, dance revolution, games bikes, boxing ring, cardiovascular and strength training equipment for kids and much more. Brandy plans to utilize everything she has learned to educate kids about the benefits of recreational and competitive sports.

Brandy has always believed that healthy living is a family affair and in May 2005 she released "***The House is Getting Fit©"*** *Video,* the first in a series of family fitness videos designed to get families up and moving at home together! Brandy says, "When parents become role models and instill the importance of exercise and diet in their children at an early age, they develop healthy habits! Most importantly, there is no better way to bond with your family."

Brandy has been featured in **Essence Magazine**, the **Boston Globe** and **Heart & Soul Magazine**. She has also amassed numerous awards for her leadership including a 1998 Roxbury Chamber of Commerce "Outstanding Achievement Award." The Girl Scouts' 2001 "Leading Women Award," the 2002 Harvard School of Public Health "Rebecca Lee Award," and Body By Brandy Fitness Center was voted "The Best of the New 2005" by the **Boston Globe,** and received the **Boston Business Journal** Top 40 under 40 "Up & Coming Award." Brandy was also Voted Dudley "Business of the Year" 2006 by **Main Streets. Ford Motors** also recognized her accomplishments as a pioneer with the 2006 Fusion "Life In Drive Award". In addition Brandy was the recipient of the Boston Center for Community and Justice "Voices of Inclusion-Innovator Award" in 2006, as well as a **Massachusetts State Lottery** "Friends of the Fairway Award", for positive contributions to her community through golf and sport. **The Makers of Pine Sol Cleaners** saluted Brandy in their "She's Got the Power" contest for leading the charge in childhood obesity. **Direct TV** recognized her as a "Home Town" hero for giving back to her community.

Amidst these extraordinary accomplishments, Brandy was most notably featured on **NBC Nightly News "MAKING A DIFFERENCE"** and **CNN News "Places To Play"** for creating the First Kids Gym in the country that accepts prescriptions from participating health care providers for obese kids enabling them to workout at BBB Fit Kidz for FREE!

Recently, Jake Steinfeld, founder of ExerciseTV, the first comprehensive on-demand network dedicated to fitness, sports training and motivational programming, named Brandy Cruthird the winner of the network's inaugural nationwide contest for "America's Next Fitness Star." As the contest winner, Brandy will receive a one-year paid contract with ExerciseTV that includes appearing in an original fitness series on the network and hosting a monthly blog on exercisetv.tv, as well as a year's worth of New Balance footwear and apparel. Brandy's programming will premiere on ExerciseTV this summer.

THE GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS

Governor Deval Patrick

Governor Deval Patrick was elected in November of 2006. He brings to the Governor's office a broad range of leadership experience at the top levels of business, government, and non-profits. From an early age, he has built his life on hope, and traced a trajectory from the South Side of Chicago to the U.S. Justice Department, Fortune 500 boardrooms, and now the Massachusetts Statehouse.

Patrick came to the Commonwealth at the age of 14. An excellent student despite the difficult circumstances of under-funded and often violent Chicago schools, he was awarded a scholarship to Milton Academy through A Better Chance, a Boston-based organization.

After graduating from Milton, Patrick went on to Harvard, the first in his family to attend college. He received his degree, with honors, in 1978 and spent a post-graduate year working on a United Nations youth training project in the Darfur region of Sudan. He returned to Cambridge to attend Harvard Law School in the fall of 1979.

Following law school, Patrick served as a law clerk to a federal appellate judge before joining the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. In 1986, he joined the Boston law firm of Hill & Barlow and was named partner in 1990, at the age of 34.

In 1994, President Clinton appointed Patrick Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, the nation's top civil rights post. At the Justice Department, Patrick worked on a wide range of issues, including prosecution of hate crimes and abortion clinic violence, employment discrimination, and enforcement of fair lending laws and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

During his tenure, Patrick led the largest criminal investigation prior to September 11th, coordinating state, local and federal agencies to investigate church burnings throughout the South in the mid-1990s.

Patrick returned to private practice in 1997 with the Boston firm of Day, Berry & Howard. That same year, he was appointed by a federal district court to serve as the first chairperson of Texaco's Equality and Fairness Task Force. Working with employees at all levels, Patrick and his Task Force examined and reformed Texaco's complex corporate employment culture, and created a model for fostering an equitable workplace. Patrick was hired by Texaco in 1999 to serve as Vice President and General Counsel leading the company's global legal affairs.

In 2001, Patrick joined The Coca-Cola Company as Executive Vice President and General Counsel. He was elected to the additional role of Corporate Secretary in 2002, and served as part of the company's senior leadership team as a member of the Executive Committee.

Governor Patrick has served on numerous charitable and corporate boards, as well as the Federal Election Reform Commission under Presidents Carter and Ford, and as Vice Chair of the Massachusetts Judicial Nominating Council by appointment of Governor Weld.

The Commonwealth's first African-American Governor, Deval Patrick came into office with a grassroots message of hope, community and hard work. By focusing on transparency and inclusion, he hopes to increase accessibility to government and encourage the civic engagement so crucial to shared progress in education, health care, economic development and other issues.

Diane and Deval Patrick have been married for over two decades and have two college-age daughters, Sarah and Katherine. The Patrick family has lived in Milton, in a house on Deval's high school paper route, for the last 17 years.

Class of 2008

Degrees in Course

Degrees are presented in the following order.

Associate of Arts

Hoda A. Abichaker
Liberal Arts

Hoda A. Abichaker
Social Science

Woredekal Teka Abraha**
Pre-Health Career

Oluwafemi John Adebayo
Social Science

Marino Antonio Almonte
Pre-Health Career

Stacey K. Anderson
Business Adminstration

Kesta Andre
Biological Science

Dieudonne Jerome Auxilius
Business Administration

Yewhoalashet Bedlu Aytenfisu
Pre-Health Career

Adenike Mobolaji Bakre
Pre-Health Career

Cynthia Ifeoma Banor
Biological Science

Mekdim Ashesir Bantiwalu
Business Administration

Yaambo(Bakari) Jibri Barrett
Liberal Arts

Candy G. Batista**
Biological Science

Charisse Baxter
Business Adminstration

Carine Belizaire
Pre-Health Career

Jennifer Altagracia Bencosme
Liberal Arts

Martine C. Casimir
Liberal Arts

Widlyne Cetoute
Pre-Health Career

Georges G. Chick***
Liberal Arts

Frances B. Coleman
Pre-Health Career

Charlene C. Comma
Liberal Arts

Jessica K. Cook
General Concentration

Romona Luvern Cropper
Liberal Arts

Latasha Denise Dobson
Biological Science

Marthe U. Doirin
Health Careers

Lina M. Dolph***
Business Adminstration

Jacqueline Dorvilmar
Business

Ekaterina Doubko
Liberal Arts

Ekaterina Doubko
Health Career

Chad Telford Drigo
Biological Science

Girma Tsegaye Endale***
Biological Science

Danny Leoardo Estrada
Biological Science

Alicea Evans
Social Science

Daphney Excellent**
Biological Science

Daphney Excellent**
Pre-Health Career

Wallace J. Fashaw**
Broadcast Media Technology

Inca M. Freire**
Social Science

Felix Gaston, Jr.
Liberal Arts

Olritch Germain
Broadcast Media Technology

Tauna Necole Good
Liberal Arts

Nolisha Trenese Greer
Liberal Arts

Dorcas Bethsaida Griffith
Liberal Arts

Saran C. Haidara
Pre-Health Career

Edell Milton Howard
Liberal Arts

Akeno Anthony Hutchinson
Physical Science

Akeno Anthony Hutchinson
Pre-Engineering

Norenegbe Imasuen**
Pre-Health Career

Sahro M. Jama
Pre-Health Career

Sophonie Jean
Liberal Arts

Sauveur Jeanty**
Biological Science

Jamie A. Jones
Business Administration

Priscilla I. Jones
Broadcast Media Technology

Cynthia S. Kebreau
Pre-Health Careers

Kwasi A. Kwaa
Business Administration

Alvaro Omar Larrama**
Business Adminstration

Yves Z. Lebron
Pre-Engineering

Mackenzy Lovinsky**
Business Administration

Flore Lubin
Pre-Health Career

Flore Lubin
Liberal Arts

Leian Lynch***
Business Adminstration

Jessica-Lynn M. Maloney**
Biological Science

Tselote Waka Mamo
Biological Science

Luz A. Mancebo
Business Adminstration

Puro Martinez
Liberal Arts

Nolisha Greer Mcmillan
Pre-Health Career

Marty McPhail
Business Administration

Yvrose Lynn Michel**
Pre-Health Career

Umar Abdullah Muhammed
Liberal Arts

Tia L. Myers
Musical Arts

Myrlene Myrtil
Business Adminstration

Felipe A. Navarrete**
Liberal Arts

Keitha Taquana Nicholas
Pre-Health Career

Annette Nicholson
Liberal Arts

Jean Frero B. Noel
Liberal Arts

Oluchi Lilian Nsonwu
Biological Science

Oluwafemi O. Oparinde
Business Administration

Judith Paige
Pre-Health Career

Bernadette Pierre
Liberal Arts

Cruz Pizarro
Liberal Arts

Jacqueline Elizabeth Reeves
English

Ulrick Rene
Pre-Engineering

Dean St. Paul Robinson**
Business Administration

Tatyana K. Rudnitskaya
Pre-Health Career

Nicole L. Sadberry**
Physical Science

Marie J. Saint Jacques
Biological Science

Judith Saintcyr
Pre-Health Career

Betsy Ann Santana
Broadcast Media Technology

Amanata Sesay
Pre-Health Career

Alvaro S. Silva
International Business

Carlos Jorge Silva
Pre-Engineering

Kyle R. Sims
Business Administration

Xiomara Suarez
Biological Science

Mitzi A. Sweeney
Biological Science

Ermal Taraj
Business Administration

Mamenasha Oshena Tesfaye
Business Administration

Karen Denise Thomas
Biological Science

Karen Denise Thomas
Liberal Arts

Chinwe K. Uchendu
Broadcast Media Technology

Sony Vilbon
Business Administration

Solomon M. Waka
Biological Science

Jessica Walker
Liberal Arts

Ayana Cameisha Walters
Biological Science

Ruth Wilcox***
Liberal Arts

Deanna Jeannette Williams
Liberal Arts

Joeline Joyel Wise
Business Administration

Amani M. Yousif***
Business Administration

(**)= High Honors (***)= Highest Honors - Bright Yellow Sash

Associate of Science

Halimatou Abdou
Registered Nurse

Theophilus NuAdjei Adjetey
Radiologic Technology

Mompremier Alce
Accounting

Cecilia Renee Alkins
Criminal Justice

Sean L.C. Ambris
Computer Information Systems

Lyzete Akwi Anjeh-Talla
ADN Nursing

Dolapo L. Ayanbeku
Early Childhood Education

Euclides F. Barbosa
Accounting

Charisse Baxter
Business Management

Adelina Berberi***
Radiologic Technology

Etheart Bertrand
Radiologic Technology

Vanessa C. Bowen-Newton
ADN Nursing

Michaelle E. Breneville
Criminal Justice

Sadiya Burdette
Early Childhood Education

Lisa Ann Marie Busby
Registered Nurse

Hui Ling Cai
Business Management

Carline Cenat-Pierre
Registered Nurse

Tracy Ann Clements
Radiologic Technology

Geraldine Conille
ADN Nursing

Kathleen A. Conners
ADN Nursing

Eudosia Cosme
Accounting

Ludmila Costiv
Registered Nurse

Phyllis Ann Coulter
Early Childhood Education

Tiffany S. Cross
Early Childhood Education

Leana Delaney
Nursing

Tathiane S. Delima
ADN Nursing

Josette Delva
ADN Nursing

Lyrna Desravines
ADN Nursing

Jeannia M. Dotel
Early Childhood Education

Tricia T. Ducheine
Criminal Justice

Alicea Evans
Liberal Arts

Robin Anne Feetham***
Radiologic Technology

Nolette Ferjuste
Accounting

Linda Forestale
Early Childhood Education

Jose M. Fuentes
Network Administration

Jose R. Garcia
Criminal Justice

Gautam Gautam***
Computer Information Systems

Joan E. Griffiths
ADN Nursing

Shelley B. Gumbs
Registered Nurse

Tova Marie Hall
Early Childhood Education

Samuel Kofi Hammond
Radiologic Technology

Joyann Maria Harewood-Smith
Registered Nurse

Maria Lopes Hubbard
Business Management

Nathanaelle Bredina Jeudy
Early Childhood Education

Marie Joceline Joseph
Practical Nursing

Marlon M. Juba
Criminal Justice

Soona Jung
Registered Nurse

Mutaz M. Khir
Computer Information Systems

Louisana King
Practical Nursing

Margalie Lacombe
Business Management

Alvaro Omar Larrama**
Business Management

Diane Levine
Criminal Justice

Zakia Chene Lilly
ADN Nursing

Dana T. Long
Computer Information Systems

Murielle Louis
ADN Nursing

Clarisse F. Madjeu
Practical Nursing

Thewodros Demie Mamo**
Accounting

Magalie Mathieu
Radiologic Technology

Daphne Aretha Matthews
ADN Nursing

Lydia C. McGuire***
Criminal Justice

MiSook McTighe
ADN Nursing

Erin A. Melchiorri
Radiologic Technology

Ernand Menard
Business Management

Qin Shao Meng**
ADN Nursing

Sandy Merejo
Early Childhood Education

Karline Michel
ADN Nursing

Yvonne Rene Miles
Criminal Justice

Dulcina S. Morais
ADN Nursing

Patricia Ann Murray**
ADN Nursing

Lucy W. Mwaura
ADN Nursing

Loi T. Nguyen
Accounting

Loi T. Nguyen
Business Management

Jacklyn Nicolas
Business Management

George G. Njenga
Registered Nurse

Chinenye Anne Nsonwu**
ADN Nursing

Yvette C. O'Brien
Criminal Justice

Benson E. Omoregbe
ADN Nursing

Pauline O. Onyemelukwe
Registered Nurse

Justin Ortiz
Criminal Justice

Donaida Patrone***
Radiologic Technology

Phillip Perez
Criminal Justice

Roxann Antoinette Perez
Health Career

Rotchana Petchdee
ADN Nursing

Cynthia Ann Marie Plummer
Criminal Justice

Daquiri Jacquel Purifoy
Criminal Justice

Wendy R. Quashie-John
ADN Nursing

Carmen M. Reyes
Early Childhood Education

Manuel D. Roman
Criminal Justice

Mohamed Mukhtar Saidi
Computer Information Systems

Joslene Sainfort
Early Childhood Education

Karleena A. Savage**
Office Administration Degree

Zenaida Eshaah Serra
Criminal Justice

Shaquana Nakesha Small
Early Childhood Education

Krishawna Marie Smith
Early Childhood Education

Alexis Denise Smith
Criminal Justice

Michelle A .Tackie-Hogwood
ADN Nursing

Marilyn Tamaklo
Criminal Justice

Kanei Taylor
Early Childhood Education

Nejat Tewolde
ADN Nursing

Darlene C. Thorpe
Business Management

Nhan Le Tran
Business Management

Matthew Umudi
ADN Nursing

Yvette Valderrama
ADN Nursing

Myetia Ann Vaughan
Early Childhood Education

Sony Vilbon
Business Management

Rudolph Anthony Vinton***
Criminal Justice

Gigja Hlin Wesneski**
Radiologic Technology

Chantelle S. Williams
Business Management

Nadesha S. Wint**
Criminal Justice

Joeline Joyel Wise
Business Management

Queen E. Woghiren
ADN Nursing

Yusuf M. Yusuf
Accounting

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Certificates with Specification

Viviane Alexis**
Medical Office Specialist

Alexander O. Esteban
Practical Nursing

Vicky Fan
Accounting

Guerline Francis
Practical Nursing

Almaz K. Gebremicheal
Medical Office Specialist

Pollyanne Grazette
Microcomputer Applications

Alain Jean-Louis
Practical Nursing

Rica R. Jimenez
Paralegal Studies

Bath-Sheba Joseph
Practical Nursing

Eugenie Ocilie Laurent
Medical Office Specialist

Roshanda Renee Leak
Medical Office Specialist

Uche K. Obu
Practical Nursing

Yanick Petion**
Medical Office Specialist

Stella Ratner**
Medical Office Specialist

Valmy Saint Louis**
Network Administration

Michelle R. Spencer
Pratical Nursing

Andre Suber
Office Technology

David O. Ugwu
Practical Nursing

Lucretia C. Washington
Practical Nursing

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Scholarships, Awards, and Honors

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc./Psi Omega Chapter Award
This award is given to an outstanding multicultural female graduate who is transferring to a four-year institution.
Betsy Santana

Claudia J. Tucker Award
This award is given annually to an outstanding Roxbury Community College transfer student in honor of the mother of Roxbury Community College's Professor Royal C. Tucker.
Bernadette Pierre

Edith Pistorino Memorial Endowed Scholarship
This award is made possible by the late Edith Pistorino. A $1,000 annual scholarship recognizes outstanding academic achievement by students who are enrolled full-time in a degree program which leads to transfer to a baccalaureate institution following graduation from Roxbury Community College. To qualify for this scholarship students must have achieved a grade point average of 3.50 or better for two consecutive semesters and not be in their final semester at Roxbury Community College.
Gregory Miller

Francina E. Copeland Gelzer Endowed Scholarship
Given in the name of a lifelong resident of the greater Roxbury community with a strong commitment to education, this award is presented to a Roxbury Community College student on the basis of outstanding scholastic achievement. The recipient is an African-American graduate who has maintained a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and who has been accepted into a four-year college degree program.
Ruth Wilcox

International Student Scholarship
International Student Scholarships are available for full-time students in good academic standing who have earned a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00. These are $1,000 scholarships. To be eligible to receive these scholarships students must provide documentation which certifies that the student holds a current student visa.
Fritz Previlon
Gaile Registe

James H. Caesar Endowed Scholarship
In 1986, a Roxbury resident established this scholarship to honor the opportunities this country and community had given him. In selecting the recipient, preference is given to graduating students who have attended the Cooper Community Center of Roxbury or the Roxbury Boys and Girls Club. If this criterion does not apply, the scholarship may be awarded to a talented Roxbury Community College student from the Roxbury community.
Danny Estrada

Girl Friends, Inc. Scholarship

These $1,000 scholarships are made possible by the generosity of Girl Friends, Inc. The scholarships are to be awarded to African-American women who are a single parent, in a transitional housing situation and/or a head of household and in good academic standing at the College. Homeless African-American single parent women are to be given priority.

Tracy Clements
Latasha Dobson
Tia Myers
Amanda Schaefer

Hiram Grand Lodge Scholarships

Two $1,000 scholarships are awarded annually as a result of the generosity of Hiram Grand Lodge; $500 will be awarded in the Fall 2007 semester, and $500 will be awarded in the Spring 2008 semester. Recipients must have achieved and maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00 and have positively contributed to Roxbury Community College and/or to the community in which they reside.

Gillma. J. Rodriguez
Shawn J. Reed

Letitia Garafalo Endowed Scholarship

Established by a native of Quincy, Massachusetts, who used her knowledge of languages to live and work in communities around the world, this endowed memorial scholarship is presented to a Roxbury Community College graduate on the basis of academic merit and financial need.

Nodesha Wint

Sapers Family Opportunity Awards

This award is presented to no more than ten Roxbury Community College graduates who transfer to four-year colleges in pursuit of baccalaureate degrees. This special "50-50" award consists of both a scholarship and a low-interest loan. The award is made available through the generosity of the William R. Sapers family of Boston.

Georges Chick
Latasha Dobson
Daphney Excellent
Yosef Gebretensay
Saran Haidara
Marie Saint Jacques

Therese Dutile Giles Award

Given annually by the Giles family in memory of their mother, this award is presented to a student who, having mastered a new language in the English for Speakers of Other Languages Department, is now graduating with an associate degree and has provided service to the Roxbury Community College community.

Felipe Nazarrette

Scholarships, Awards, and Honors

RCCF Excellence Scholarship Award

This award of $1,000 is given annually to the graduating student(s) with the highest grade point average. The student(s) must have earned at least 50 credits at Roxbury Community College and have been accepted at a four-year college in pursuit of a baccalaureatedegree.

Girma Tsegaye Endale

RCCF Nursing Scholarships

These scholarships are made possible by the generosity of the Roxbury Community College Foundation's Board of Directors. These $500 scholarships are awarded to full-time Nursing students in good academic standing who have earned a grade point average of at least 3.00.

Jayne Hamilton

Donaida Patrone

Urban Workforce Scholarships

Urban Workforce Scholarships are available for enrollees in the College's business and industry short-course and certificate programs and part-time students. Part-time students (fewer than 12 credits per semester) will receive one-half of their tuition charges up to $500 per semester.

Dorcas Griffith

Solanyi Lopez-Lima

Marie St. Jacques

Deans/Departmental Scholarships

These $500 scholarships are awarded each semester and recognize outstanding academic achievement. To be eligible students must be enrolled full-time in a degree program, and on the Dean's or President's List.

Norenegbe Imasuen

Yoseph Gebregziabhe

Khadija Khatib

Edith Agbonghàgb

The Registrar of Roxbury Community College maintains the official list of all graduates. This program is only for ceremonial purposes.

Academic Regalia

The caps, gowns and hoods of the academic procession date back to the Middle Ages when they were common dress for scholars. In the Twelth Century monks and students wore them to keep warm from the damp and drafty European castles and halls of learning.

The Bachelor's gown has a pleated front and long, pointed sleeves. The master's gown, which may be worn open, is distinguished by its long square sleeves. The doctor's gown is trimmed with velvet panels and has three velvet bars on the bell shaped sleeves.

The hood provides the color, contrast and symbolism of the procession. Certain colors became associated with particular areas of knowledge. For example, the hood border worn by a doctor of theology was red, a color associated with the Catholic Church; a medical doctor wore a green border with relates to the healing powers of medicinal herbs.

In Europe, a uniform color system was never developed. However, in the United States, an intercollegiate committee meeting in 1895 decided upon uniform color standards, assigning a specific color to each field of study.

Departmental Colors of Faculty Members' Hoods & Tassels

Agriculture	Maize	Library Science	Lemon
Arts, Humanities	White	Medicine	Green
Chiropractic	Silver Gray	Music	Pink
Dentistry	Lilac	Nursing	Apricot
Economics	Cooper	Pharmacy	Olive Green
Education	Light Blue	Philosophy	Dark Blue
Fine Arts	Brown	Science	Golden Yellow
Journalism	Crimson	Social Work	Citron
Law	Purple	Theology	Scarlet

Roxbury Community College

Years of dreaming and planning came to life in 1973, when Roxbury Community College opened its doors in the Grove Hall area of Roxbury. Despite less than perfect surroundings - its location was a former car dealership - Roxbury Community College's dedicated faculty, staff, and administration served the educational needs of four hundred students. The College's mission, as it is now, was to provide higher education to those Boston residents who found most other avenues to higher education closed.

In 1975, growth was the impetus to a move to 424 Dudley Street, a former nursing home. This move permitted the expansion and strengthening of academic programs and student services. The College continued to grow, which precipitated another move in 1982 to the former site of Boston State College on Huntington Avenue. As the College continued to shift its service base to meet an expanding enrollment, the goal to establish a permanent home for Roxbury Community College in the heart of the communities it serves remained strong.

With much anticipation, Roxbury Community College built its new home as the cornerstone of the Southwest Corridor in the Spring of 1978. This fifteen acre campus includes a state-of-the-art Media Arts Building, Academic Building, Administration Building, Student Center, and the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center.

A global village, Roxbury Community College's multicultural and ethnically diverse student population has set it apart from other community colleges in the Commonwealth. Although most of our students are from Boston and surrounding communities, many come from all corners of the world including: North America, Central America, South America, Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe and the Caribbean.

With renewed commitment, Roxbury Community College continues its legacy of providing educational opportunities for all who enter its doors.

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